

THE NATIONAL REPUBLICAN.

By The National Republican Company.

Office: Pa. Avenue, Cor. Tenth and D Sts.

TERMS OF SUBSCRIPTION PER YEAR BY MAIL.

(PAYABLE IN ADVANCE.)

Daily Edition (postpaid) \$2.00

Weekly Edition (postpaid) 1.00

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NATIONAL REPUBLICAN,

Washington, D. C.

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The New York office of THE NATIONAL REPUBLICAN is at

Room 65, Tribune building, where files of THE RE-

PUBLICAN and all necessary information relating

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The American will be found on file at the

American Exchange in Europe, No. 49 Strand,

London; the American Exchange in Paris, No. 35

Boulevard des Capucines.

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THE DAILY REPUBLICAN delivered by carriers to

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Per Month \$1.00

Per Quarter \$2.50

Per Year \$10.00

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The following is a list of the branch offices in

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HOTEL, WILLARD'S HOTEL, and METROPOLITAN

HOTEL.

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W. F. SCALA, Druggist, 500 East Capitol street.

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S. SLATER'S Cigar Store, corner H and First

streets northwest.

MONDAY, MAY 7, 1883.

Every effort is being made to have THE REPUBLICAN

delivered early and promptly in all parts of the city.

Persons who do not receive their paper, or who have

any cause of complaint, will oblige by notifying the

office, either in person or by postal card.

The Weather To-Day.

For the middle Atlantic states, warmer fair weather,

light variable winds shifting to southerly, steady or

lower pressure.

Local rains are indicated on Tuesday in the middle

states and New England, and clearing weather in the

lake region and Ohio valley.

Yesterday's temperature.—7 a. m., 53.5°; 11 a. m.,

62.1°; 3 p. m., 68.1°; 7 p. m., 66.3°; 11 p. m., 63.5°;

maximum, 69.2°; minimum, 51.0°. No rainfall.

THE Macon Telegraph is devoting considerable

space to the discussion of "the great

need of the democratic party." The great

need of that party is a grave, and sense

enough to crawl into it. The Telegraph is

welcome to this succinct statement of the

thing it is looking for.

WILLIE WINTER writes from the Cincinnati

festival to inform the New York Tribune

that "the incoherence of art finds only spontaneity

stimulates the soulfulness of the artist, and

where sympathetic echoes of the human heart

can reach the nerve ganglion of a malarious

population addicted to the use of sausage."

Evidently Mr. Winter did not know that the

beer in Cincinnati was loaded.

THE retirement of William H. Vanderbilt

from the presidency of the railroads that

have grown to be known as "the Vanderbilt

lines" is given a colorable seriousness by

the fact that his sons retire with him. Mr. Van-

derbilt retains his places in the managing

and directing boards of the companies, but

the course he is taking gives reason to

believe that he has relinquished active in-

terest in them all. There is less to be sur-

prised over in this move than many of the

public seem inclined to think. The Van-

derbilt estate, large enough at the death of

the commodore, has developed enormously under

the care of the present head of the house. It is

to be doubted whether any one aside from

himself knows its actual extent, but it cannot

fall short of \$200,000,000, and may exceed

that sum. The care of such a fortune is all

that any one human being should be ex-

pected to carry. It is natural and easy to

suppose that it is to this labor he proposes

giving the rest of his life. His act is at

least a grateful evidence that it is possible

for a man to know when he has gotten

enough.

It was happily in keeping with the char-

acter of the event that the legislature of New

York died on hangman's day. Its closing

hours, on Friday last, were marked by

such an exhibition of bad temper

and indecent skurry as nobody who

was present will care ever to see again. This

precious body was run into existence last fall

through the joint efforts of the democratic

party and certain assistant democratic news-

papers of the state that wanted to "rebuke"

the republican party. No other legislature in

any state ever made so disgraceful a record

of gutter politics, greed, spilling blood, job-

bery, bad temper, and vulgarity. If the as-

sistant democratic newspapers that were so

largely responsible for it had any sense

of shame in them, or any sensibility

of any sort, its doings would constitute

such a bitter memory to them as would

forever keep them within bounds. They

called for a "reform" legislature. They

got it. Their work speaks for them in the

story of a long session filled with pillage

so wicked and stupidly so dense that even

their own governor, the man to whom they

voluntarily betrayed the "poor sheep" that

knew no better than follow them, found it

necessary, out of the mere regard

for common decency, to step in and

do what he could to protect the

state from utter disgrace and sections from

wanton outrage. For a legislature that be-

gan with so loud a yell about "re-

form," it demonstrated about as compre-

hensive a need of being reformed as

any rabble of thieves and rowdies could

very well have. It is dead now. And there

is not a mourner. The one good thing

it did for the state was to open the eyes of the people to the heinousness of the kind of "reform" that is to be gotten by following the false lights of democracy as held up by the New York Times and Tribune.

Thomas Jefferson on Merchants and Commerce.

Our free traders of the states' rights persuasion venerate Jefferson as the founder of their school. They insist that his opinions, or maxims, shall be adopted by the nation in the conduct of public affairs, and at the same time clamor for free trade. Is not that somewhat inconsistent?

Now, free trade or an extended foreign commerce, while banishing home manufactures, builds up "a nation of merchants" and "great cities," with their turbulent and dangerous mobs. That was a condition of affairs greatly deplored by Jefferson. He had no faith in merchants. He doubted their patriotism, believed them utterly faithless in public affairs, and wholly governed by an insatiable, mercenary greed. An extended foreign commerce and corruption in the state he believed were inseparable. Thus in a letter (dated Monticello, March 8, 1810) to Gov. John Langdon, who by the way was a merchant, Jefferson declares:

And what is to be our security that when embarked for her (England) she will not make a separate peace and leave us in the lurch? Her good faith! The faith of a nation of merchants! The *Punica fides* of modern Carthage!—*Jefferson's Works*, vol. 8, p. 511.

And Jefferson entertained no higher opinion of our own merchants. In a letter (dated Monticello, June 10, 1815), to John Adams, he asks: "And have our commercial citizens merited from their country the encountering another war to protect their gambling enterprises?" Again, in a letter (dated Monticello, June 20, 1816), to William H. Crawford, he declares: "Our commercial dashers have already cost us so many thousand lives, so many millions of dollars, more than their persons and all their commerce were worth." And in his "Notes on Virginia" he urges: "The mobs of great cities [the work of commerce] add just so much to the support of pure government as sores do to the strength of the human body."

These were Jefferson's opinions of merchants and commerce—some of his maxims of public policy. If he be correct, if "the faith of a nation of merchants" be "the *Punica fides* of modern Carthage," if merchants are unpatriotic, faithless in public affairs, pursuing their gambling enterprises "at the expense of the body politic; if an extended foreign commerce, "licentious commerce," as Jefferson styles it, be corrupting to the nation and people, then our free traders, our supporters of an extended foreign commerce, are most unpatriotic, and advocate measures or a system which, if adopted, would result in the demoralization of the people and state, and the ruin of the nation.

Prosperity of the Nation.

The annual report of the New York chamber of commerce for the year ending on May 1 is an able and valuable document. It reviews in detail the financial and commercial history of the nation during the past twelve months, and by its statistics and facts gives a most encouraging picture of the prosperity of the nation and its many industries.

It shows that the consumption of sugar in this country during 1882 was 1,100,000 tons, an increase of 70,000 over 1881, and that upon a basis of population of 53,000,000 the consumption per capita in the United States was 45.25 pounds, our country ranking next to Great Britain, which consumed 64.90 pounds. The trade in coffee and tea is in an unsatisfactory condition. The chief feature of this trade during the year was over production, and many and great changes took place in its methods.

The report denounces the silver dollar as a legal tender, and states as "a well-known fact" that no country has succeeded in maintaining as large a silver coin as the dollar in extensive circulation.

Our national prosperity reached its height in 1881. We have since steadily held our own. For the eight months of the fiscal year ending June 30, 1883, we had "an excess of exports over imports of merchandise and a balance of trade of \$89,000,000 in favor of the United States against \$71,000,000 for the same period during the previous year." The exports of specie were \$19,000,000 and the imports \$18,000,000; and the report states that this year we shall again hold our entire products of the precious metals.

The report laments the decay of our commercial marine. It states that the total number of vessels engaged in the foreign trade of the United States in 1882, was 21,243, with an aggregate tonnage of 7,362,963 tons. Of these 10,805 were Americans, with a tonnage of 5,117,885 tons. In 1882 the number increased to 33,739 vessels, with a tonnage of 17,600,737 tons, of which 9,072 were American, with a tonnage of 3,340,968 tons.

The report closes with the following bright commercial outlook:

In surveying our own horizon of commercial enterprises we fall to discern one cloud of menace and look forward with cheerful confidence to a year of quiet prosperity for the entire country, of which New York will, as in the past, receive her ample share.

History of American Shipping.

Charles S. Hill, of this city, a gentleman of both industry and accuracy in book-making, is the author of a "History of American Shipping, its Prestige, Decline, and Prospect." Mr. Hill has previously written on this subject, "Our Merchant Marine" and "American or Foreign Ships; Which?" He has given in 284 pages about all there is to tell of ships, from those in which Columbus sailed to discover America to the beautiful "Pilgrim" of the Old Colony line. It will be remembered by all who take an interest in this subject that Hon. Nelson Dingley, of Maine, made a two-days' speech on the shipping bill, which the joint committee reported. The bill failed, but the labors of the committee to restore American shipping to the commerce of the world were not lost. The speech itself preserves much of the result of the investigation. This book does the same, but in more useful arrangement for general reading. The history of all that has been done in the development of ships is illustrated, along with portraits of the leading inventors and builders of all stages. This

has led one editor to insinuate, in a most unreasoning spirit of criticism, that the book is in the interest of John Roach. It would have been as reasonable to say that it was written in the interest of James Ramsey, who died years ago. Running through the history is an argument for government assistance, as other governments give to their shipping, and it may safely be assumed that this sentiment will be increased rather than diminished as time goes on, and our ships drop out of commerce on account of inability to compete with a combination of foreign shipbuilders and foreign governments.

An Event and an Episode.

Next week the reunion of the Army of the Potomac and the race meeting of the National Jockey club will attract crowds of visitors to Washington. The Jockey club is a valuable and permanent institution, whose meetings will always serve as magnets to lovers of sport; but the reunion is an episode. There is no reason why such episodes should not become of frequent occurrence. This city is more suitable than any other for such celebrations. It was the gate through which the angry floods of the north poured over the south. It is now the temple where the records of the war are kept, and where the figures of its heroes breathe the silent song of victory and glory. The soldier naturally turns to Washington as the Mecca of his memories. This is the sentimental phase of the case. From a business point of view it is more important. Thousands of visitors bring thousands of dollars into a city. The money they spend is an infusion of new blood into the financial veins of a community and business men are the beneficiaries. It is only reasonable that in the future, inducements should be held out to national societies of all sorts to make Washington the scene of their gatherings. The returns would be tenfold the expenditure in every such instance.

And there is no reason why Washington should not be the center of legitimate sporting interests. The river is already famous as a boating course, and the Ivy City track is unsurpassed in this country. The latter is already successful; the former should be made attractive to oarsmen by generous inducements on the part of our people. We are not a village community; we are a thriving city, and we will be more successful if we advertise ourselves by making the city the scene of events, which will interest other persons than those who are interested in the affairs of government.

TENNESSEE claims to be second in the list of states that have furnished presidents, Virginia being first, counting by the number of years served. But Tennessee brooks no second in furnishing public defaulters who have served no time at all.

THE London Times proposes to get rid of the Irish agitation by having Englishmen "ignore" Irishmen. The Times had better educate Englishmen up to sitting on red-hot stoves and ignoring the fire.

"Too much pork for a shilling," is the sarcastic grunt with which the Commercial-Advertiser turns from the Cincinnati dramatic festival. This is the worst rut yet.

WHILE the Germans have Bismarck they do not need hog from anywhere else.

The Pay of Fourth Class Postmasters.

A question has arisen as to the time when the readjustment of the salaries of fourth class postmasters should go into effect. The sixth auditor has consulted Comptroller Lawrence and Secretary Folger about it, and they hold that the readjustment should have begun March 3. This decision will compel the sixth auditor to take up and adjust the accounts heretofore settled on the basis of the old law, numbering in all about 45,000, and cast commissions for each of them, so as to make them conform to the new law. After the readjustment of the pay of the fourth class postmasters, beginning with March 3, the government will owe to each of them an increase of from \$10 to \$20 per annum, according to the amount of stamps canceled, and this increase will have to be paid quarterly until Oct. 1, when the reduced letter postage goes into operation. The payment of this increase will necessarily involve a large deficiency in the appropriation, and the pay of postmasters for the current fiscal year.

Kenna's Successor.

Ex-Speaker Samuel J. Randall has just returned from putting his political hooks in the campaign now going on in the third district of West Virginia, where a congressman to succeed Hon. J. E. Kenna, elected to the Senate, is to be chosen. At the democratic caucus it was decided that if he was elected by 500 majority he would be satisfied. Judge Joseph H. Brown, the republican candidate, is making a vigorous canvass of the district. He is opposed to monopolies, is in favor of a protective tariff, wishes to abolish him the popular and poor's candidate, and he says with a fair count he will be elected.

Sound Advice to Democrats.

When one sees such men as Randall, Thurman, and Bayard struggling with the Laocoon of ungodly money, repudiation, state treasury defections, Tammany rovelism, and plunder grabbing whenever opportunity presents, a desire arises that the hopeless struggle shall stop. In the south there is a large respectable element of self-democratic, which has no sympathy with the inferior element of the party. If these men cannot become republicans let them start a party of their own, with views which they are not afraid to express; or, if their views diverge, let them start two parties, or three if necessary—any organization, however small, would be better than the great mongrel, stumbling affair which now goes by the name of democracy.

Worse Than Intoxicated.

The democratic party, intoxicated with its new power, forgets that that power is a sacred trust, and that an accounting with the people is inevitable. A young king, rank in his arrogant pride, could not be more forgetful of his duties to the government than is the present democratic administration. The revolution will come next November.

A Bostonian's Dream of Heaven.

A Kentucky man when dying, last week, told the watchers at his bedside that he saw Heaven. He probably had a vision of a big spring of living bourbon whiskey, flowing between banks of sugar and lemon, with a high toned gentleman standing on each shore, shouting at each other with gold plated revolvers.

History of the James Boys.

A subscriber writes asking for information concerning the James brothers. Well, here you are. You know Frank is somewhere out west awaiting his pardon, and Henry, we believe, is still in London.

THE PRIVATE POSTAL CONCERNS.

How They Have Encroached on Uncle Sam's Business—Clear Violations of the Law—The Prosecutions Begin.

Officers of the Postoffice department, in reply to inquiries with regard to the proceedings recently taken to close the private postal companies in New York city, say that so far as the investigation has gone, it seems to show that the most flagrant violators of law are the companies known as "Hussey's Express," "Boyd's Dispatch Post," "The Manhattan District Delivery company," and "The United States Circular Delivery company," the two organizations last named being one and the same company. The prosecution of this unlawful business by such companies, postoffice officers here say, not only results in a loss of large revenue to the department, but materially and in many ways interferes with the proper conduct of the United States postal business, and brings undesired discredit upon the postal administration. Investigation shows that in many cases business men in New York have given letters to subordinates to mail, with money to pay postage at government rates. The prosecution of these instead of mailing the letters in the post-office have given them to one of the private postal companies which would deliver them more cheaply than the government, and have pocketed the difference between private and government rates. Many of the letters have been lost or delayed, and the writers attributing such loss or delay to the United States postal authorities have made complaint of bad service to the department which was in no way responsible for the loss. The local and Hussey companies make collections and deliveries only twice a day, while the regular government carriers deliver and collect from eight to twenty times daily. It is not true, therefore, that the private postal companies are better than that of the government. There cannot be any reasonable complaint, postoffice officials say, concerning the dispatch and delivery of mail at the New York office with the very liberal facilities at government expense, and that the only advantage which these private postal companies have over the government is that of lower rates. Many advertisers by means of circulars prefer to send their circulars in sealed envelopes because they think they will be delivered more promptly. The government delivery company deprives the government of a large revenue by carrying these sealed circulars at much less than the letter rates charged therefor by the Postoffice department. Previous to the establishment of the free delivery system the postoffice carried all cities, but in 1881 the government decided that it had a right to do this business, and the penny post was broken up by arrests and seizure. The public at first took the private companies to task, but they finally acknowledged the superiority of the free delivery system.

The private organization doing business under the names "Manhattan District Telegraph company" and "Circular Delivery company" recently began to deliver newspapers in bulk to other cities than New York, where they have agencies, and to distribute it there, thus beginning the formation of a network of mail routes, in clearly illegal competition with the Postoffice department.

May 6. The Postoffice department, under the direction of Postmaster General Atty. Root to-day began civil suits in the United States courts against the proprietors Boyd's and Hussey's offices for the distribution of letters. The letters which were seized by the postoffice inspectors on Friday were given to the custody of Postmaster General Root, who informed the firms, whose business appeared on the envelopes, that the letters were held for postage, and would be delivered to the senders or would be forwarded to the custody of Postmaster General Root. Many of the letters were returned and others were forwarded, the delivery companies in some cases offering to pay the postage. Dist. Atty. Root informed the officers of other companies, including the United States Telegraph, Delivery company, and the American, Manhattan, Mutual, and Baltimore and Ohio District Telegraph companies, that they were charged with maintaining private express for the carriage of mail matter contrary to law. An answer was required from the president of the American company denying that its business was contrary to law. The action under which the seizures were made prohibits only the delivery of letters at stated times and over regular routes. The conveyance of letters by private express messengers is expressly prohibited from the prohibitions of the law. The district telegraph companies rely on this provision to prevent interference with their business. The persons who answered the notices in the afternoon of Friday last, and their letters had their attention called to the provision making the sending of letters contrary to law punishable by a fine of \$50 for each offense. It was said that the companies whose letters were seized would continue business under another form.

Senator Ingalls on Garfield.

John J. Ingalls lectured in the Methodist church last night to a large audience. Ingalls is lean, hungry looking, but of commanding form. He is not one of those who "sleep of nights" that Julius Caesar was searching for; but, on the contrary, he is like Cassius, busy to think and hatch a conspiracy, lead a revolution. We admire the frankness of the man for giving this people a true picture of James A. Garfield. It was naturally expected that a lecturer on the assassination of the president would cover up all defects, and eulogize the man above his merits. But we were all disappointed, some agreeably, and others disagreeably. We heard some of the audience going away muttering in tones of displeasure at the lecture because it did not canonize Garfield, while, on the other hand, many said that it was a true picture. When Ingalls got through with his lecture he had trimmed Garfield down to a very ordinary man. Conkling surprised him in an ornate chair, and Sherman in generalship. Blaine was a greater debater. According to Ingalls's testimony, Garfield was not a great orator, debater, general statesman, or scholar. He was not endowed with ordinary executive powers, and if he lived, his administration would have been a failure. In other words, about the only thing extraordinary about Garfield was the manner of his death. He was an effusive, slow-over-kind of a man, good enough as a teacher and preacher, but not the kind of stuff that politicians, statesmen, warriors are made of, and hence his failure to reach beyond mediocrity. Such is the Garfield of John J. Ingalls, when you read between the lines of his lecture, say, when you read the lines out clear and strong.

New Metal for Telegraph Wire.

J. Edwin Sherman, metallurgist, of Boston, has just concluded here a series of experiments upon the new metal recently discovered by him, with a view to ascertaining its fitness, as compared with the materials for telegraph wire. The experiments, it is said, show that wire made of this metal has great tenacity, does not rust, and is superior in point of conductivity to any wire now used for electrical purposes. The metal, which has nearly the specific gravity and somewhat the appearance of silver, can be produced at a cost of 5 cents a pound.

Called on the President.

Prince Takekita, Mr. Terashima, the Japanese minister; Capt. Keoroda, and Mr. Takahashi, Japanese consul at New York, called at the White House Saturday, and were presented by Secretary Frelinghuysen.

Mr. Henry Grover, French commissioner of agriculture to the United States; Eduardo de Silva, of Brazil, and Mr. G. N. Monteiro, principal of Morton college, Brazil, called at the White House, in company with Gen. Eaton, commissioner of education, and paid their respects to the President.

Promotions in the Patent Office.

Charles J. Kintner, of Michigan, formerly chief clerk of the patent office, was on Saturday promoted to be principal examiner of patents vice F. L. Freeman, resigned. Schuyler Duryee, of Virginia, formerly chief of the division in the patent office, was appointed chief clerk, and Samuel Malliken, of New Jersey, formerly chief clerk of the Department of Justice, was appointed chief of division, vice Duryee promoted.

A SOLAR ECLIPSE.

The Phenomenon Which Was Witnessed in the South Sea Yesterday.

A total solar eclipse occurred yesterday, the only one this year will see. Invisible in this part of the world, the line of totality was wholly in the Pacific ocean, running from